Dan & Barb Ter Horst 1264 Dos Hermanos Glen Escondido, CA 92027 Wike Cary MC 5/31/02

May 28, 2002

John H. Robertus Executive Officer California Regional Water Quality Control Board 9174 Sky Park Court Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92123 1:00 P 1:00

## Dear Sirs:

We are writing in support of the S&S Farms water quality permit. We recently visited the farm site and visited with the owner. We toured the facility, and we were very impressed with the high tech nature of this farm. The fact that ventilation and temperature can be controlled via computer from a remote location is impressive.

I grew up on a hog farm in lowa, and my father is still raising hogs there now. I am used to seeing hogs in manure, and the odor and flies that occur during the hot summer. This facility will be just the opposite, with great attention placed on cleanliness, a good environment for the animals, and what appears to be a great deal of time and money spent on odor and waste water management control.

We also noticed, having just visited the farm, the agricultural nature of the area. Several chicken farms, a goat farm, a couple dairies, and even a very noisy exotic bird farm surround it. It seems that the nature of this area is made up of similar animal raising operations.

We believe that San Diego County, Ramona, and the Water Quality Board should be very proud of the fact that they have the most cutting edge biomedical swine production farm on the west coast. Also, it is a farm that has been designed with the protection of the environment in mind.

Bord Dudderet

Sincerely,

Dan Ter Horst & Barb Ter Horst

gf MC 5/31/02



May 29, 2002

RWQCB Industrial Compliance Unit 9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100 San Diego, Ca 92123

Dear Mike Corry:

20 MM 30 P 12:

After having considered arguments both for and against animal research I am convinced that animal research has proven to be valuable to the medical community. I understand and sympathize with those who oppose animal cruelty. Most animal researchers conduct experiments in a manner such that animals are treated with the utmost care and consideration. While it is certainly important to promote the well being of animals, human life holds a much higher value in my opinion. Given this philosophy, it is not difficult to support animal research that will continue to provide valuable insight toward the treatment of medical indications in humans.

It has come to my attention that there are certain groups attempting to block the approval of a waste discharge permit sought by Tom Salayer of S&S Farms. My understanding is that S&S Farms has designed a system that exceeds the local, state, and federal requirements. This project has been ongoing for the past two years and will be nearly complete with the adoption of this waste discharge permit by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

S&S Farms comprises the sole resource for research quality pigs in Southern California. If you fail to approve the permit for this project, S&S Farms will more than likely go out of business. However, the research and medical community will suffer far more than Mr. Salayer and S & S Farms. A lack of animal research resources will stunt and possibly halt the development of cures for deadly diseases, medical devices, and alternative treatment for various diseases. One can only imagine what life would be like without vaccines for dozens of infectious diseases, including diphtheria, tetanus, rabies, whooping cough, tuberculosis, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps and rubella. The investigation of these ailments indisputably relied heavily on animal experimentation: in most cases, researchers identified candidate microorganisms and then administered the microbes to animals to see if they contracted the illness in question. To restrict research with animals would prevent discoveries that would benefit humankind.



As the Research Coordinator for a group of cardiologists, I can confirm that a reliable source of healthy animals is crucial to research projects. Our research group has developed several medical devices and treatments that have greatly improved the health and saved lives of patients with cardiac disease. We continue to develop new devices and treatments for the benefit of these patients. All of our research projects use animal models. I am in complete agreement with the opinions expressed in this letter. If Mr. Salayer were to go out of business, it would be a devastating blow to medical research. I strongly support the approval of the waste and discharge permit for S & S Farms.

Therefore it is imperative that you approve the waste and discharge permit. Doing so will benefit individuals on either side of the animal research argument, because everyone has already and will potentially benefit from animal research.

Regards,

Susan V. Schauer, MS

Research Coordinator

Cardiovascular Interventional Research Center

SE

## **S&S Farms**

821 Carriage Drive San Marcos, CA 92069

Phone 760-420-0644 Fax 760-744-5259

May 28, 2002

John H. Robertus Executive Officer California Regional Water Quality Control Board 9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92123

Dear Mr. Robertus,

I of course would like to voice my support for our NPDES permit approval at the June 12, 2002 Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting. Tom and I have both desired from the start to build this farm using proven agricultural engineered designs for control of waste, odor, dust, flies, rodents and other nuisance issues associated with many swine facilities.

We spent over one year searching for an ideal location. The Ramona site was favorable due to adequate acreage for a proper buffer zone for the neighbors, correct zoning, like operations in the area and decent access to major freeways. Our relationship to our neighbors was a major concern. We knew that odor and groundwater protection would be some of their main concerns. We directed the agricultural engineering firm of Feldmann and Associates to address these concerns in the design. Feldmann and Associates oversized the waste ponds in order to control odor and provide adequate evaporative surface area so that land application could be avoided. It is ironic that this design with my neighbors well being in mind has lead to misconceptions of what the farm will become.

The actual location of the farm on the 118 acre site was also carefully thought out with our neighbors in mind. We have located it to the far east end of the property, the greatest distance from the vast majority of homes in the area. We moved it far enough to the north to take advantage of a large eucalyptus grove downwind that will act as a natural barrier and filter for the ponds and animal activities that will occur.

The waste ponds were of a concern from the start. With Feldmann and Associates help we researched many alternative sealing methods that might be used. Of course cost was a concern but pond liner performance was a priority. In the end a soil/clay/synthetic polymer liner was deemed the liner of choice. Unlike a plastic liner that suffers one hole and fails it is two feet thick and will continue to improve with age. Soil liners will continue to tighten their seal as particulates continue to fill the liner voids with time. Much laboratory testing was done with the liner material prior to and after installation by a licensed geotechnical firm to insure the integrity of the pond's seal. With the upcoming addition of two monitoring wells near the ponds we feel confident of the Regional Board's ability to assure our neighbors of the protection the shallow ground water will be afforded.

We sell animals primarily for biomedical research. The animals that are used must be of the highest quality in regards to health and soundness of structure. The swine building designs incorporate the latest technology for the health and well being of the animal. Feldmann and Associates integrated these needs into the structures. Even within the design of the buildings attention was paid to protect against leakage from the waste storage below the animal pen flooring. Elastic seals were placed at expansion joints in the concrete to prevent leakage. All concrete storage wall and floor joints for the under pen waste storage had the proper synthetic sealants in place prior to the laying of the concrete. I mention these items because the were not required by the county building code or environmental regulations. Items of this nature are costly but we felt were needed to provide protection against leakage to the environment.

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In all honesty our first visits with your staff were not the highlight of my day. We had believed after having some preliminary contact with the Regional Water Quality Board's Staff prior to earth moving and again thereafter that we would not be required to obtain any permits for our farm since no discharge to the land or surface waters would occur. I felt reassured and believe John did too that after review by the NRCS and their confirmation of the good engineering designs that were implemented in all aspects of the farm that the extra cost of the agricultural engineer was well worth it. I am pleased to say that John Phillips and his staff have treated us fairly in their investigation of how our farm is designed. Your staff has bent over backwards to investigate all of the neighbors concerns legitimate or not.

We have been good friends with the vast majority of our neighbors and have received overwhelming support from the community of Ramona. It is our sincere desire to be good stewards of the land and water and make believers out of those who doubt what we say.

Sincerely,

Mark Bousema S&S Farms

me 6/04/02



## CEDARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER.

Division of Cardiology (310) 423-3849 Phone (310) 423-8571 Fax E-mail: siegel@cshs.org

May 29, 2002

Mr. Mike Corry RWQCB Industrial Compliance Unit 9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100 San Diego, Ca 92123

Dear Mr. Corry,

100 HAY 34 P 1: 25

As the principal investigator of many animal research studies in the Cardiology Division at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, I am writing to express my support of a waste discharge permit sought by Tom Salayer of S&S Farms.

I am very much convinced that animal research has proven to be valuable to the medical community. After considering the pros and cons of animal research, the overwhelming beneficial results and progress in this area clearly support and outweigh any arguments against animal research. I understand and sympathize with those who oppose animal cruelty. However, most animal researchers conduct experiments in a manner such that animals are treated with the utmost care and consideration. While it is certainly important to promote the well being of animals, human life holds a much higher value in my opinion. Given this philosophy, it is not difficult to support animal research that will continue to provide valuable insight toward the treatment of medical indications in humans.

It has come to my attention that there are certain groups attempting to block the approval of a waste discharge permit sought by Tom Salayer of S&S Farms. My understanding is that S&S Farms has designed a system that exceeds the local, state, and federal requirements. This project has been ongoing for the past two years and will be nearly complete with the adoption of this waste discharge permit by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

S&S Farms comprises the sole resource for research quality pigs in Southern California. If you fail to approve the permit for this project, S&S Farms will more than likely go out of business. However, the research and medical community will suffer far more than Mr. Salayer and S & S Farms. A lack of animal research resources will stunt and possibly halt the development of cures



Mr. Mike Corry

Re: Waste Discharge Permit

Page 2

for deadly diseases, medical devices, and alternative treatment for various diseases. One can only imagine what life would be like without vaccines for dozens of infectious diseases, including diphtheria, tetanus, rabies, whooping cough, tuberculosis, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps and rubella. The investigation of these ailments indisputably relied heavily on animal experimentation: in most cases, researchers identified candidate microorganisms and then administered the microbes to animals to see if they contracted the illness in question. To restrict research with animals would prevent discoveries that would benefit humankind.

Therefore it is imperative that you approve the waste and discharge permit. Doing so will benefit individuals on either side of the animal research argument, because everyone has already and will potentially benefit from animal research.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Siegel, M.D., FACC

Kennamer Chair in Cardiac Ultrasound

President, California Chapter, American College of Cardiology

Director, Cardiac Noninvasive Laboratory

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Professor of Medicine

UCLA School of Medicine

RJS:mh

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## John and Joanne De Raadt

2822 Harmony Grove Rd

Escondido, CA 92029

Sunday, June 2, 2002

John H. Robertus California Regional Water Quality Control Board 9174 Sky Park Court Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92123

Dear Mr. Robertus.

I would like to record my support at the June 12, 2002 Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting for the NPDES permit for S&S Farms.

I have visited the S&S Farms project many times during its construction. I being a dairyman am well aware of the water quality issues that farmers face today in regards to surface and groundwater protection. I am very impressed with the engineering that has gone into this farm. What is more amazing is that the owners voluntarily had the farm designed to negate any impact to surface and groundwater.

I wish each board member could tour this farm and see what I am saying is true. The facilities are truly state of the art. I have never seen a hog farm anywhere that can compare. Even the nature of the business is important. Many of these animals will be used in studies in San Diego and elsewhere that could provide life saving research in the future to us and our children.

It is unfortunate that a few people can make building a farm so difficult. I am aware of the vandalism, harassment, and slander that have been done to Mr. Bousema and Mr. Salayer. I understand that the Board's staff is in favor of this permit. I hope the board will base their decision on the engineering and facts of this project that have been scrutinized closely by the Regional Board's staff.

Sincerely,

John De Raadt

1001 701 -H is 15: 5P

8383 Wilshire Boulevard Beverly Hills, CA 90211 ITEM & SUPPLEMENTAL

May 23, 2002

**RWQCB** Industrial Compliance Unit 9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100 San Diego, Ca 92123

Dear Mike Corry:

After having considered arguments both for and against animal research, I am convinced that animal research has proven to be valuable to the medical community. Funderstand and sympathize with those who oppose animal cruelty. Most animal researchers conduct experiments in a manner such that animals are treated with the utmost care and consideration. While it is certainly important to promote the well being of animals, human life holds a much higher value in my opinion. Given this philosophy, it is not difficult to support animal research that will continue to provide valuable insight toward the treatment of medical indications in humans.

Suite 302

It has come to my attention that there are certain groups attempting to block the approval of a waste discharge permit sought by Tom Salayer of S&S Farms. My understanding is that S&S Farms has designed a system that exceeds the local, state, and federal requirements. This project has been ongoing for the past two years and will be nearly complete with the adoption of this waste discharge permit by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

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Therefore it is imperative that you approve the waste and discharge permit. Doing so will benefit individuals on either side of the animal research argument, because everyone has already and will potentially benefit from animal research.

Regards,

Nampombé Taylor

BROUWER INSURANCE A

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LICENSE NO. 0454226

ESCONDIDO, CALIFORNIA 92025 (760) 745-5151 FAX (760) 741-9308 725 EAST VALLEY PARKWAY P.O. BOX 729

Friday, May 31, 2002

John H. Rebertus California Regional Water Quality Control Board Attn: Industrial Compliance unit 9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92123

I want to express my support of the NPDES permit for S&S Farms at the June 12, 2002
Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting.

I have visited the S&S Farms project and C business. As an income I have visited the S&S Farms project and find it to be a modern, well organized and destrable business. As an insurance broker, we insure a number of farms. I find that as farming operations go, you couldn't find much better than S&S Farms. I think its location is ideal and well suited for Ramona, making it an asset for this community. The design and layout of facilities and water treatment system is thorough and to my mind will ensure the safety and quality of life for the neighbors of S&S Farms, and the rest of Ramona.

This facility and its supply to the medical research community will enhance the economy of North San Diego County by attracting an already growing bio-medical industry in our area. Our economic diversity is becoming a hallmark of San Diego County and I welcome the arrival of S&S Farms and other farming enterprises.

Mark Bousema has told me of the scrutiny and harassment he and his partner have endured from some in the community and I believe they have met every consideration, and done so in a gentlemanly manner. I hope the board will base its decision on the engineering and facts and not on the inflammatory comments of those who wish to undermine our economic freedom.

Sincerely,

Jack/Brouwer, CIC

Brouwer Insurance Agency